

Table 5-1. Sample Matrix Abbreviations.

Section 5

Data Reduction, Validation, and Reporting

5.0 Introduction

Since the data generated by this monitoring program, especially the congener-specific PCB analyses, will be voluminous, it is essential that the data management procedures maintain the quality and integrity of the data, and efficiently store, screen, and retrieve them for subsequent analysis and interpretation. An overview of these procedures is provided below.

5.1 Data Reduction

Data reduction is an integral part of any field investigation. This process often includes applications of methods, calculations, and computer programs. Documentation of all methods, calculations and data must be sufficient to allow a technically qualified person to review and decipher calculations and data to verify results.

5.1.1 Field Data

Field data will be recorded in field books all field generated data will be retained by CDM in permanent files in the CDM Detroit office (One Woodward Avenue, Ste.1500, Detroit, Michigan). One copy of the field data will be delivered to the MDEQ project manager on a yearly basis. The CDM Site Manager will be responsible for organizing the field data records and conveying them to the CDM Project Manager, who will arrange for permanent filing of the records. The Site Manager will be responsible for checking all data, calculations and methods collected by other field personnel.

5.1.2 Sample Numbering

Efficient and accurate data handling begins with properly labeling the samples in the field. All samples will be assigned a unique ~~14~~-digit sample number. This sample number will be assigned to both abiotic and biotic media collected from the API/PC/KR site. The sample designations will be as follows:

aa-bbb-c-dd

where aa=sample matrix type, bbb=station number, c=location on transect (if any), and dd=multiple indicator (for blanks, duplicates, etc.).